

EXHIBIT B

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528



**Homeland
Security**

Privacy Office, Mail Stop 0655

March 18, 2019

SENT VIA CERTIFIED MAIL TO:

Sean Riordan
Senior Staff Attorney
ACLU-NC
39 Drumm Street
San Francisco, CA 94111

Re: **2019-HQFO-00491**

Dear Mr. Riordan:

This acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), dated February 25, 2019, and seeking 1. all records pertaining to the criminal investigation of a refugee or refugees residing in the United States, 2. all communications to, from, or within any Subject Agency, including between the White House and any Subject Agency, pertaining to the criminal investigation of a refugee or refugees residing in the United States, 3. all records pertaining to FBI intelligence gathering about refugees residing in the United States through: a. "outreach" to mosques and Muslim communities or individuals; b. "Domain Management"; c. the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative; 4. all records pertaining to then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions' claim on March 6, 2017 that "today, more than 300 people, according to the FBI, who came here as refugees are under an FBI investigation today for potential terrorism-related activities", 5. all communications to, from, or within any Subject Agency, including between the White House and any Subject Agency, pertaining to then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions' claim on March 6, 2017 that "today, more than 300 people, according to the FBI, who came here as refugees are under an FBI investigation today for potential terrorism-related activities", 6. data sufficient to show, from January 19, 2017 to the present, on a monthly basis and broken down by nationality, the following with respect to the Federal Bureau of Investigation: a. the number of suspicious activity reports received pertaining to refugees through the Nationwide SAR Initiative; b. the number of assessments of refugees that were opened; c. the number of assessments of refugees that were closed without federal criminal charges being filed; d. the number of preliminary investigations of refugees opened; e. the number of preliminary investigations of refugees closed without federal criminal charges being filed; f. the number of full investigations of refugees opened; and g. the number of full investigations of refugees closed, without federal criminal charges being filed, 7. all records pertaining to the surveillance of a refugee or refugees residing in the United States, 8. all communications to, from, or within any Subject Agency, including between the White House and any Subject Agency, pertaining to the surveillance of a refugee or refugees residing in the United States, 9. all records pertaining to how surveillance or criminal investigation of a refugee residing in the United States affects their application for adjustment of status or citizenship, including any and all communications between the investigating or surveilling agency and USCIS, DOS, and/ or ICE, 10. all records pertaining to how surveillance or criminal investigation of a refugee residing in the United States affects the immigration application for refugee status, adjustment of status, or citizenship of any person who lists such refugee as a contact, a sponsor, or a family member on the application, including any and all communications between the investigating or surveilling agency and USCIS, DOS, and/or

ICE, 11. all records pertaining to recruitment of refugees to act as informants or gather intelligence for the FBI, 12. all records provided by the Department of Homeland Security or the Department of State to the Senate Judiciary Committee in response to a letter dated August 20, 2018 from Sen. Chuck Grassley (Date Range for Record Search: From 1/19/2017 To 2/25/2019). Your request was received in this office on March 13, 2019.

After careful review of your FOIA request, we determined that your request is too broad in scope or did not specifically identify the records, which you are seeking. Records must be described in reasonably sufficient detail to enable government employees who are familiar with the subject area to locate records without placing an unreasonable burden upon the agency. For this reason, 6 C.F.R. Part 5 §5.3(b) of the DHS FOIA regulations require that you describe the records you are seeking with as much information as possible to ensure that our search can locate them with a reasonable amount of effort. Whenever possible, a request should include specific information about each record sought, such as the date, title or name, author, recipients, and subject matter of the records, if known, or the DHS component or office you believe created and/or controls the record. The FOIA does not require an agency to create new records, answer questions posed by requesters, or attempt to interpret a request that does not identify specific records.

Please resubmit your request containing a reasonable description of the records you are seeking. This is not a denial of your request. Upon receipt of a perfected request, you will be advised as to the status of your request. If we do not hear from you within 30 days from the date of this letter, we will assume you are no longer interested in this FOIA request, and the case will be administratively closed.

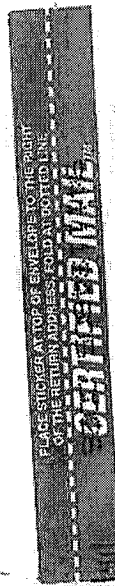
Your request has been assigned reference number **2019-HQFO-00491**. Please refer to this identifier in any future correspondence. The status of your FOIA request is now available online and can be accessed at <https://www.dhs.gov/foia-status>, by using this FOIA request number. Status information is updated daily. Alternatively, you can download the DHS eFOIA Mobile App, the free app is available for all Apple and Android devices. With the DHS eFOIA Mobile App, you can submit FOIA requests or check the status of requests, access all of the content on the FOIA website, and receive updates anytime.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss this matter, please feel free to contact this office at 1-866-431-0486 or at 202-343-1743.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James V. Holzer, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

James Holzer
FOIA Program Specialist



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U. S. Department of Homeland Security
245 Murray Lane SW, Stop 0655
Washington, DC 20528-0655

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MAR 26 2019
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Sean Riordan
Senior Staff Attorney
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